BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN / CALIFORNIA WATER FIX

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX PARTIALLY RECIRCULATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT







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In the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo California

JULY 2015

LEAD AGENCIES: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

ABSTRACT:

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix would make physical and operational improvements to the State Water Project (SWP) system in the Delta necessary to restore and protect ecosystem health, water supplies of the SWP and Central Valley Project (CVP) south of the Delta, and water quality within a stable regulatory framework, consistent with statutory and contractual obligations. This Recirculated Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS) considers project revisions that were developed in response to input received during the Draft EIR/EIS comment period as well as from agencies' comments regarding the challenges with meeting the standards required to issue long term assurances associated with compliance with Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Natural Community Conservation Plan Act (NCCPA). To address these concerns, and due to the desire to explore alternative regulatory approaches that could facilitate expeditious progress on Delta solutions, the Lead Agencies revised the project to allow for an alternative implementation strategy for the three new alternatives (2D, 4A, 5A) in this RDEIR/SDEIS. The alternative implementation strategy relates to achieving the project goals and objectives, focusing on the conveyance facility improvements necessary for the SWP to address more immediate water supply reliability needs in conjunction with related ecosystem improvements, such as significantly reducing reverse flows and direct fish species impacts associated with the existing south Delta intakes. The alternative implementation strategy allows for other state and federal programs to address the long term conservation efforts for species recovery in programs separate from the proposed project.

This Recirculated Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EISRDEIR/SDEIS has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

Additional written comments and questions concerning this document should be submitted by e-mail to BDCPComments@icfi.com or by U.S. mail to BDCP/WaterFix Comments, P.O. Box 1919, Sacramento, CA 95812

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